



New day, time for NASA Update by Administrator O'Keefe

Employees to get break on Camp KSC sessions

▲ **O'Keefe chat rescheduled:** The NASA Update with Administrator O'Keefe has been rescheduled to Friday, April 25, from Noon to 1 p.m. The update will be broadcast on NASA TV, channel 7. Administrator O'Keefe will discuss the latest developments in the Columbia investigation, and he'll explain how recent changes to federal financial assistance guidelines impact the way you can get involved in providing assistance to the STS-107 families, as well as the families of other NASA employees who gave their lives while serving the agency and America.

▲ **Early registration for Camp KSC:** This summer, Camp KSC takes on a whole new look, as it will be operated out of the Astronaut Hall of Fame and will include simulators, virtual reality experiences and a host of other new features including a free annual pass to every camper. The day camp will operate weekly sessions starting the week of June 2, continuing through the week ending August 8. In anticipation of capacity signups, KSC has partnered with Delaware North to offer employees and their families "first crack" at camp registration, a chance to select the dates that best suit your needs, and a 10 percent discount off the public price of \$260. Further, recognizing the need for flexible scheduling, Delaware North has offered to waive the \$25 extended hours upcharge, allowing free early-dropoff or late pickup by KSC employees. Since registration by the general public will soon surge, the free extended hours offer is available only to those who register by Friday, May 2, so please don't delay. For your convenience, there will be a camp information and enrollment desk at Saturday's picnic. We hope you find this of value, and we are working with Delaware North on a number of other new employee benefits to be announced soon. The information and registration number for Camp Kennedy Space Center is (321) 449-4400.

◆ **Aerospace Technician Appreciation Event** -- The SpaceTEC national aerospace technical education program invites aerospace technicians, mechanics, and their spouses, to attend the first Annual Technician Appreciation Night, planned as part of the 40th Space Congress on April 29, at the Radisson Convention Center, Port Canaveral, from 6-8 p.m. The event honors the critical contribution of the technician workforce to our nation's space and aerospace programs. Co-sponsored by the National Association of Aerospace Technicians, the event will include free refreshments (cash bar), a prize drawing and special guests. E-mail fsri-1@juno.com to RSVP or for information.

◆ **Book Fair** – The NASA Exchange is once again sponsoring a Book Fair in April and May. It will be available 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 24 - 25 in Room 1055 in the O&C building; April 29 - 30 in the SSPF cafeteria; and May 1 - 2 in the MFF cafeteria. Stop by and get your books and gifts at discount prices!

◆ **NASA Science** – Astronauts onboard the International Space Station (ISS) have seen a lot of auroras in recent months. They've even flown through some. Usually the lights are green; sometimes they're red. Other colors are rare. So when ISS science officer Don Pettit looked out the window on March 29 and saw vivid blue-rimmed auroras, he had to grab his camera and take a picture. Read the full story at http://science.nasa.gov/ppod/y2003/09apr_aurorablues.htm to find out what makes these Northern Lights so blue.

◆ **Did You Know? Friday, April 25, is Arbor Day.** The idea for Arbor Day originally came from Nebraska. A visit to Nebraska today wouldn't disclose that the state was once a treeless plain. Read more about it at <http://www.arborday.org/arborday/history.html>

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Deadlines: 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. Send information, comments or questions to:

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Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2003.htm>